

Claims

1. A rimmed brushhead for a power toothbrush, comprising:  
a brushhead member, which includes a bristle field, adapted for cleaning teeth as part of a power toothbrush, wherein the brushhead member in operation moves in a reciprocating action; and  
a rim member extending around at least a substantial portion of the bristle field of the brushhead, the rim member having an upper edge which is lower than the top of the bristles, and otherwise configured and arranged to produce movement of fluid from the bristles toward the teeth during operation of the toothbrush.
2. The brushhead of claim 1, wherein the rim member is substantially continuous around the bristle field.
3. The brushhead of claim 1, wherein there is a difference in flexibility between the rim member and the bristles in the bristle field, resulting in differential motion between the bristles and the rim member and a pumping action for the fluid toward the teeth.
4. The brushhead of claim 1, wherein the rim member is separate from the brushhead member.
5. The brushhead of claim 1, wherein the rim member is integral with the brushhead member.
6. The brushhead of claim 1, wherein the rim member has a height which is approximately one-half the height of the tallest bristles in the bristle field.
7. The brushhead of claim 1, wherein substantially all of the fluid moving off the bristles is directed toward the teeth and gums of a user.

8. A brushhead for a power toothbrush, comprising:

a brushhead member, which includes a bristle field, adapted for cleaning teeth as part of a power toothbrush, wherein the brushhead member in operation moves in a reciprocating action;

at least one paddle member positioned on the brushhead member, the bristle field extending around a substantial portion of the paddle member, the paddle member extending upwardly from a bristle base with the bristles, wherein the paddle member is not as high as the bristle field, and otherwise configured and arranged to produce movement of fluid from the bristles toward the teeth during operation of the toothbrush.

9. The brushhead of claim 8, including at least two paddle members.

10. The brushhead of claim 9, wherein the paddle members extend substantially longitudinally of the brushhead.

11. The brushhead of claim 9, wherein the paddle members extend substantially the entire length of the bristle field.

12. The brushhead of claim 9, wherein the bristle field extends entirely around the paddle member.

13. The brushhead of claim 9, wherein the paddle members are parallel and substantially equal in size and configuration.

14. The brushhead of claim 9, wherein the paddle members are sufficiently different in arrangement or material that they move out of phase with each other during movement of the brushhead.

15. The brushhead of claim 9, wherein the paddle members have a different flexibility from the bristles.

16. The brushhead of claim 9, including wing portions which extend outwardly from the paddle member along the length thereof.

17. The brushhead of claim 16, including wing portions at opposing ends of the paddle member.